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**IN
THIS
ISSUE**

*Cattle on Feed
Monthly Hog and Pigs
Annual Chicken & Eggs
Annual Milk Production
Crop Values
Potato Stocks
Farm Labor & Wages*

Dear producers and other data users:

Information contained herein is the result of mail, phone and personal interview surveys conducted during the past few weeks. Special recognition and appreciation are extended to all producers and agribusinesses who provided data making these reports possible.

William G. Hamlin
State Statistician

Nebraska Cattle on Feed Down 6 Percent

Nebraska feedlots with capacities of 1,000 or more head contained 2.29 million cattle on feed on February 1, down 6 percent from last year and 3 percent below February 1, 2000. Placements of cattle into feedlots during January totaled 490,000 head, up 2 percent from 2001 but 2 percent below 2000. Fed cattle marketings for the month of January totaled 405,000 head, down 6 percent from last year and 4 percent below January two years ago. Other disappearance during January totaled 25,000 head compared with 20,000 head during January 2001 and 10,000 head during January 2000.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Down 3 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on February 1, 2002. The inventory was 3 percent below February 1, 2001 and slightly below February 1, 2000. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 2.17 million, 4 percent below 2001 and 2 percent below 2000. Net placements were 2.08 million. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 2.08 million, up 2 percent from both 2001 and 2000. Other disappearance totaled 89,000 during January, 14 percent above 2001 and 29 percent above 2000.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2001-2002

STATE	February 1 Number on Feed ¹			January Placements			January Marketings			January Other Disappearance ²		
	2001	2002	<u>2002</u> 2001	2001	2002	<u>2002</u> 2001	2001	2002	<u>2002</u> 2001	2001	2002	<u>2002</u> 2001
	1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent		1,000 Head	Percent	
Arizona	302	311	103	28	32	114	25	25	100	2	1	50
California	445	475	107	60	59	98	55	57	104	10	7	70
Colorado	1,230	1,180	96	305	225	74	275	215	78	10	10	100
Idaho	325	320	98	71	57	80	65	65	100	1	2	200
Iowa	385	390	101	52	86	165	51	50	98	1	1	100
Kansas	2,500	2,450	98	580	530	91	465	540	116	15	20	133
Nebraska	2,430	2,290	94	480	490	102	430	405	94	20	25	125
New Mexico	116	106	91	11	8	73	10	9	90	0	1	
Oklahoma	410	345	84	68	62	91	65	74	114	3	3	100
So. Dakota	205	200	98	35	46	131	31	38	123	1	3	300
Texas	2,930	2,850	97	460	480	104	450	500	111	10	10	100
Washington	243	237	98	55	41	75	59	50	85	3	1	33
Other States	420	405	96	58	50	86	61	55	90	2	5	250
United States	11,941	11,559	97	2,263	2,166	96	2,042	2,083	102	78	89	114

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

² Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed, February 15, 2002.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs Per Litter, and Pig Crop,
United States December-November 2001-2002 ^{1 2}**

Month	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Dec ¹	901	917	8.66	8.80	7,803	8,069
Jan	906	929	8.71	8.80	7,887	8,171
Feb	941		8.79		8,273	
Mar	958		8.88		8,503	
Apr	954		8.89		8,481	
May	958		8.90		8,525	
Jun	953		8.80		8,386	
Jul	931		8.81		8,205	
Aug	954		8.84		8,438	
Sep	966		8.75		8,448	
Oct	950		8.78		8,344	
Nov	930		8.80		8,180	
Total	11,302		8.80		99,473	

¹ December preceding year.

² Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.

Source: USDA NASS Monthly Hogs and Pigs, February 22, 2002.

Chickens: Inventory By Type, Nebraska and United States, December 1, 1999-2001

Item	Nebraska				United States			
	1999	2000	2001	2001/2000	1999	2000	2001	2001/2000
	<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Percent</i>	<i>Thousands</i>			<i>Percent</i>
All Chickens	13,846	13,895	13,704	99	436,343	435,056	441,089	101
Hens & Pullets Laying Age	11,842	11,840	11,494	97	329,320	332,410	338,233	102
Pullets 3 mo. & over not of laying age	203	424	539	127	38,587	38,395	42,807	111
Pullets under 3 mo. old	1,801	1,628	1,671	103	58,775	56,163	51,923	92
Other chickens	0	3	0		9,661	8,088	8,126	100

Source: USDA NASS Chickens and Eggs 2001 Summary, January 2002.

Eggs: Production, Average Number and Eggs per Layer, Nebraska and United States 1999-2001

Item	Nebraska			United States		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
Eggs Produced (<i>million</i>)	2,837	2,999	3,001	82,715	84,386	85,616
Average Number of Layers (<i>thousand</i>)	11,167	11,909	11,650	322,354	327,985	334,897
Eggs per Layer (<i>number</i>)	254	252	258	257	257	256

Source: USDA NASS Chickens and Eggs 2001 Summary, January 2002.

Milk Cows and Production: Number and Milk Produced by Quarter, Nebraska and United States, 2000-2001

State and Month	Milk Cows		Production per Cow		Production	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Nebraska						
January - March	75	75	4,125	4,080	309	306
April - June	75	73	4,200	4,140	315	302
July - September	76	70	4,100	3,930	312	275
October - December	77	69	4,140	3,960	319	273
Annual	76	72	16,513	16,056	1,255	1,156
United States - Annual	9,206	9,115	18,201	18,139	167,559	165,336

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, February 15, 2002.

Crop Summary: Marketing Year Average Price and Value of Production, Nebraska and United States, 1999-2001

Crop	Prod. Unit	Price			Value of Production		
		1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
		Dollars			1,000 dollars		
Nebraska							
Corn for Grain	Bushels	1.75	1.90	2.00	2,018,975	1,927,170	2,278,500
Sorghum for Grain	Bushels	1.52	1.84	1.85	65,010	64,400	66,045
Oats	Bushels	1.08	1.42	1.55	5,022	2,684	5,673
Barley	Bushels	1.40	1.60	1.65	202	216	297
All Wheat	Bushels	2.20	2.61	2.80	179,520	155,034	165,760
Winter Wheat	Bushels	2.20	2.61	2.80	179,520	155,034	165,760
Rye	Bushels	1.40	¹	¹	567	¹	¹
Soybeans	Bushels	4.47	4.44	4.20	807,394	771,894	936,390
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	16.30	15.80	17.80	60,962	51,034	56,693
All Hay (baled)	Ton	37.50	69.50	72.00	286,440	416,103	537,687
Alfalfa Hay (baled)	Ton	39.00	71.50	74.00	202,020	299,228	380,952
All Other Hay (baled)	Ton	33.50	62.50	64.50	84,420	116,875	156,735
All Potatoes	Cwt.	4.95	4.85	5.45	52,175	49,116	46,390
Sugar Beets	Ton	33.20	29.20	NA	41,766	32,470	NA
Sunflower (all)	Cwt.	9.54	8.50	9.20	11,112	5,491	7,785
Sunflower (oil)	Cwt.	7.50	6.80	8.10	4,759	2,866	4,050
Sunflower (non-oil)	Cwt.	12.10	11.60	11.20	6,353	2,625	3,735
United States							
Corn for Grain	Bushels	1.82	1.85	2.00	17,103,991	18,499,002	19,209,312
Sorghum for Grain	Bushels	1.57	1.89	1.95	937,406	847,075	997,864
Oats	Bushels	1.12	1.10	1.50	175,172	175,797	175,923
Barley	Bushels	2.13	2.11	2.25	597,038	649,130	535,472
All Wheat	Bushels	2.48	2.62	2.80	5,593,989	5,782,107	5,553,815
Winter Wheat	Bushels	2.29	2.51	2.75	3,870,955	3,893,961	3,750,695
Rye	Bushels	2.27	2.60	2.90	25,084	21,830	20,243
Soybeans	Bushels	4.63	4.54	4.30	12,205,352	12,466,572	12,439,597
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	16.40	15.50	19.40	547,636	413,986	392,937
All Hay (baled)	Ton	76.90	85.00	97.30	11,014,373	11,416,651	12,611,560
Alfalfa Hay (baled)	Ton	80.20	89.00	106.00	6,338,797	6,707,454	7,543,627
All Other Hay (baled)	Ton	66.80	70.90	73.10	4,675,576	4,709,197	5,067,933
All Potatoes	Cwt.	5.77	5.08	6.60	2,745,712	2,591,091	2,935,611
Sugar Beets	Ton	37.20	34.20	NA	1,242,895	1,113,030	NA
Sunflower (all)	Cwt.	7.53	6.89	9.10	339,993	246,869	317,473
Sunflower (oil)	Cwt.	6.33	5.89	8.60	229,593	175,306	246,988
Sunflower (non-oil)	Cwt.	13.40	11.20	11.40	110,400	71,563	70,485

¹ Estimates not published individually beginning in 2000. NA= Not Available. NOTE: All prices in this report are marketing year average prices which do not include allowances or adjustments for: commodities under government loan at the end of the marketing year; commodities forfeited to the Commodity Credit Corporation; or crop deficiency and disaster payments. Estimates shown for 2000 crops are preliminary.

Source: USDA NASS Crop Values 2001 Summary, February 2002.

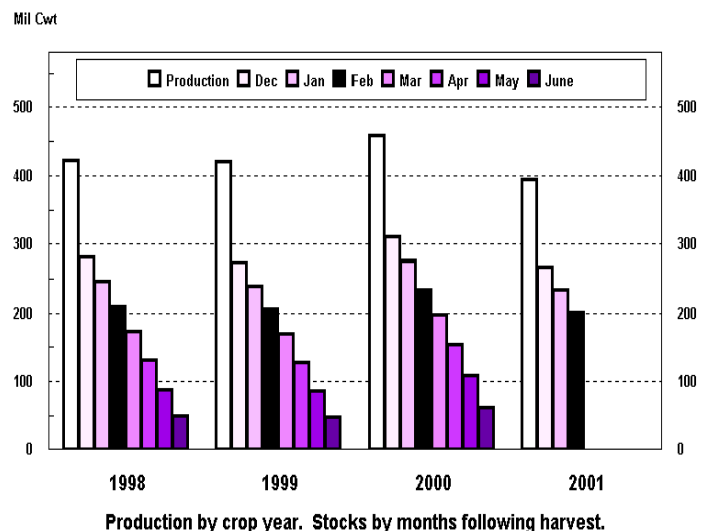
Potato Stocks

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Selected States, February 1, 2002

State	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 2002
<i>Thousand cwt.</i>		
California	1,113	700
Colorado	21,357	11,000
Idaho	127,980	76,000
Maine	16,120	8,800
Michigan	14,030	4,800
Minnesota	18,425	9,500
Montana	3,040	2,750
NEBRASKA	8,512	3,350
New York	5,942	1,400
North Dakota	26,400	14,500
Ohio	984	50
Oregon	20,730	14,000
Pennsylvania	3,173	900
Washington	94,400	40,000
Wisconsin	31,955	14,000
Total 15 States	394,161	201,750

Source: USDA NASS Potato Stocks, February 14, 2002.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Hired Workers Up 7 Percent, Wage Rates Up Over 3 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 914,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of January 6-12, 2002, up 7 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 731,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees working on farms and ranches made up the remaining 183,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 7.6 percent of the January hired workforce compared to 9.6 percent last year.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$8.96 per hour during the January 2002 survey week, up 30 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.25 per hour, up 49 cents from last January. Livestock workers earned \$8.25 per hour compared with \$8.07 a year earlier. The

field and livestock worker combined wage rate at \$8.25 was up 38 cents from last year. Number of hours worked averaged 38.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 37.3 hours a year ago. The largest increases in number of hired farm workers over last year occurred in the Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri), Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), Appalachian I (North Carolina and Virginia), and Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina) regions.

The largest decreases in number of hired farm workers from a year ago were in the Northern Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota), Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia), and Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas) regions.

Farm Labor: Number and Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers, Selected Regions and United States, January 7-13, 2001 & January 6-12, 2002 ¹

Region ²	Hired Workers		Wage Rates							
			All Hired Workers		Type of work					
					Field		Livestock		Field & Livestock	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Dollars per hour</i>							
Lake	38	38	9.53	9.91	9.12	10.22	8.26	8.26	8.57	8.94
Cornbelt I	34	30	10.10	9.75	8.58	9.03	9.06	9.22	8.88	9.15
Cornbelt II	14	24	9.05	9.74	7.86	8.62	8.61	9.41	8.49	9.26
Northern Plains	32	28	9.11	9.00	8.45	8.34	8.47	8.41	8.46	8.39
Southern Plains	65	61	7.98	8.05	7.35	7.82	7.71	7.37	7.53	7.57
Mountain I	19	18	8.63	8.34	8.06	8.02	8.22	7.74	8.19	7.81
Mountain II	18	17	8.72	9.15	7.57	8.54	7.76	8.48	7.68	8.51
United States	691	731	8.66	8.96	7.76	8.25	8.07	8.25	7.87	8.25

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers.

² Regions consist of the following: Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; Cornbelt I: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio; Cornbelt II: Iowa, Missouri; Northern Plains: Kansas, NEBRASKA, North Dakota, South Dakota; Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas; Mountain I: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming; Mountain II: Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, February 15, 2002.

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